

# Ultimatum to Germany Is One of To-Day's Possibilities

American government's plans, and that it had been decided he should not have it.

## GERMANY WILL NOT GIVE UP ITS SUBMARINE WARFARE

The ambassador did state, however, to Secretary Lansing that while under no circumstances could Germany give up the submarine, because it was being used in retaliation for Great Britain's food blockade, his country would attempt to use the submarines in accordance with international law and Germany's assurances to the United States. He added that in any case where instructions to submarine commanders were violated reparation would be made in accordance with the assurances given in the Lusitania, Arabic and other cases. Secretary Lansing told the ambassador he would see him again in a few days.

When the ambassador learned of the arrangements for to-morrow's joint session of Congress he apparently was as much surprised as the remainder of official Washington. Optimistic throughout, even when the diplomatic negotiations seemed in tight corners and the much-discussed break appeared to be imminent, the ambassador's confidence remained unshaken to-night that friendly relations between his country and the United States would continue. He personally expressed the opinion that everything would come out all right in the end.

Administration officials reflected President Wilson's determination to have an ending to diplomatic negotiations which they feel have brought only promises which have been unfulfilled and assurances which have turned out to be of disputed meaning.

## SITUATION AS TO ULTIMATUM IS RECOILED

Until to-day's Cabinet meeting, statements were semi-authorized to the effect that a communication to Germany was being prepared which would be in the nature of an ultimatum, reciting a long list of destructions of vessels in violation of Germany's pledges. With the announcement of the President's plan to lay the situation before Congress, that phase of the situation was hedged, and no official would clear it up.

It was indicated that a communication of some sort would go forward to Germany, either simultaneously or subsequently to the President's address to Congress, but its terms were less clearly indicated to-night than at any time since officials allowed it to be stated that such a document was being written. It has been generally indicated by officials that it would be a chronological indictment of Germany's submarine policy as an offense against the laws of nations and humanity, beginning with the first submarine operations of the war and continuing down to the Sussex and the later cases which have brought the situation to a new crisis. In conclusion, it was understood, it would be clearly stated that it was America's last word, and that nothing but a strict compliance with the principles for which the United States has all along contended could insure a continuance of friendly relations between the two countries.

## RECIPE OF LAWLESS ACTS DESPITE MANY PLEDGES

To-night it was indicated the President's address to Congress will be along the same line—a recital of lawless acts, non-compliance with pledges despite pledges and assurances. It was pointed out that it is entirely within the range of possibilities that the President may announce to Congress that he has decided to break off diplomatic relations with Germany or declare the last word of protest has been said, and there can be but one answer to continued disregard of the lives and rights of neutrals at sea.

The repeated declaration that the President would lay the entire situation before Congress before breaking off relations, was pointed to in support of belief that after presenting the case to Congress, a communication will be sent solemnly warning Germany that more violations of her pledges can have only one result.

It is possible, but contrary to custom, that diplomatic relations might be broken without some communication in the nature of an ultimatum. It is likewise possible, but contrary to custom, that an ambassador be handed his passports, before his government has had opportunity to make answer to a final demand.

Complications between the United States and Germany began piling up from the moment the submarine war zone was declared around the British Isles. With all Europe's eyes were turned to the eyes of the world were turned upon the United States in expectancy of developments that would threaten to draw the greatest neutral into the conflict. They were not long in coming.

With the repudiation of the British liner within the first American life was lost. Soon after the sinking of the Lusitania, almost a year ago, in which 115 Americans were lost, the first note was sent to Germany pleading the United States to hold her to a strict accountability.

While the Lusitania negotiations seemed to be nearing a final agreement, Germany announced a new submarine campaign, which began on March 1, with the avowed purpose of sinking, without warning, any merchant ships of her enemies which carried armament.

## CLIMAX OF DESTRUCTION IS SINKING OF SUSSEX

The climax came with the destruction of the disabled channel steamer Sussex and the endangering of about fifty Americans. Since the Sussex was attacked, State Department records show more than sixty-five ships destroyed.

Upon the accumulation of evidence President Wilson and the Cabinet have come to the conclusion that there is abundant evidence that Germany is violating her promises, and upon that the President is prepared to outline his action to Congress to-morrow.

The next steps will be disclosed only by the President himself when he speaks.

## DEFENSE OF VERDUN IS STORY OF HEROISM

French Cannot Be Blasted Out of Their Stubborn Determination to Resist Most Powerful Assaults Germans Can Bring to Bear—City Is Practically Destroyed.

BY STANLEY WASHBURN.

VERDUN, FRANCE, April 18.—The defense of Verdun is the story of the character and morale of a heroic army which, though taken in the least expected quarter, could not be blasted out of its stubborn determination to resist, even though the Germans have for weeks employed the products of the factories and their human resources almost without interruption since the first attack. With all this expenditure the Germans have only been able to beat the defense at a cost at least double what the capture of Verdun would have been worth to them, from a strategic point of view.

Through the courtesy of the French government, every facility was placed at my disposal to enable me to observe the situation to-day in Verdun. The city to-day impressed me as one of the most depressing places I have yet encountered in the war zone. The Germans, having failed to realize their intentions of breaking the French defense outside of the town, have turned their attention to the complete destruction of the city itself. They have been pouring shells into Verdun at the rate of 400 to 800 darts, taking one quarter of the town after another. They have already fired 3,000 shells within forty days.

## STREETS ARE DESERTED

BY HUMAN BEINGS

The streets were utterly deserted by human beings, except for an occasional soldier hurrying with an urgent message, or a few civilians, who were seen only about dusk skulking through the alleys. Every window was boarded up. The silence was broken by the terrible detonations of the high-explosive shells. These arrived about once every two minutes with the sound of express trains. Their landing was announced by a detonation like the explosion of a land mine, with clouds of dust and debris leaping into the air like the eruption of a volcano.

The columns of these ambassadors of death, which were apparently ranging from fifteen to thirty feet in height, were seen only about dusk skulking through the alleys. Every window was boarded up. The silence was broken by the terrible detonations of the high-explosive shells. These arrived about once every two minutes with the sound of express trains. Their landing was announced by a detonation like the explosion of a land mine, with clouds of dust and debris leaping into the air like the eruption of a volcano.

## SUSPECTED AS SPIES

Three Men, Said to be Germans, Are Found to Have Valuable Maps in Possession.

SAVANNAH, GA., April 18.—Three men, said to be Germans, but whose names could not be ascertained, were arrested late to-day at Haverhill, N. C., at the instigation of Lieutenant A. P. Crookshire, United States Engineer Corps, who suspected them of espionage, according to long-distance telephone messages received here from Lieutenant Crookshire. A search of the prisoners' clothing, it was said, revealed that they were in possession of maps giving minute details of fortifications and roads along this section of the coast, and carried an elaborate photographic outfit.

A charge of vagrancy on which the men were taken into custody, was changed to a charge of being "suspicious characters," when each of the three produced some to disprove the vagrancy charge.

The documents found on them, it was said, would be of value to foreign governments should they become involved in war with the United States.

## OFFICERS ARE ELECTED BY ROYAL ARCADE

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NORFOLK, VA., April 18.—Howard A. Avery, of Norfolk, was re-elected supreme regent and W. Floyd Reagan, of Richmond, grand regent, to-night by the Grand Council, Royal Arcanum. Other officers elected were as follows: John B. Bates, Norfolk, grand vice-regent; W. W. Miller, Richmond, grand orator; A. B. Rottis, Fredericksburg, grand treasurer; Thomas Spratt, Roanoke, grand chaplain; James E. Blanks, Petersburg, grand scribe; H. A. Allen, Lynchburg, grand warden; J. E. Winfree, Richmond, grand squire; J. Foster Gray, Eastern Shore, chairman of the grand council; A. D. Jackson, Richmond, grand secretary of the executive committee; J. O. Ayvallette, Eastern Shore, chairman of the grand council; Lewis Seal, Richmond, finance committee.

The grand council witnessed the initiation of a large class of new members for membership in Pochontas Council. The degree was conferred by Grand Regent Reagan, assisted by the grand council. Pochontas Council, at 10 o'clock, the members of Pochontas Council and representatives of the grand council were entertained at a banquet.

To-morrow morning the officers elected at the afternoon will be installed by Grand Regent Reagan, assisted by the grand council. The next meeting place of the grand council will also be selected to-morrow. Richmond, it is probable, will be selected.

## OFFICIAL INSPECTION OF DEPT. PLANT MADE

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] HOPEWELL, VA., April 18.—Dr. Alice Hamilton, of the United States Health Department, Washington, and Miss Kittredge, of the National Social Service Commission, New York, to-day finished an official inspection of this way by W. P. Allen, superintendent of the Dept. plant, and following the inspection pronounced themselves as highly satisfied with all conditions here.

Those on the heels of the announcement that the Star clothing company of St. Louis, would not ask for a renewal of its contract for convict labor at the Virginia State Penitentiary, for in touch with B. C. Campbell, manager of the prison plant in Richmond in an effort to induce the company to locate its proposed factory here. The league was referred to the general office in St. Louis, and three members of the league have agreed to pay their own

fortress, I motored to an observation point in one of the adjacent forts, where an excellent view of the entire terrain was obtainable. Telescopes made it possible to see the Germans beyond their lines. Save for the shelling everywhere, especially of the town itself, the day was relatively quiet.

It seems difficult to get an accurate estimate of the German losses, but from all the sources questioned and from observation of the terrain here compared with analogous territory on the eastern front, where I know the losses, approximately, the Germans must certainly have lost from 175,000 to 200,000 men. Still, when one considers the enormous numbers engaged and the accuracy of the French 75's, it is possible that even more casualties may have resulted.

## FRENCH MEET SHORTAGE

BY MOTOR TRANSPORT

The most extraordinary feature of the entire defense has been the capacity of the French to adapt themselves to the situation in the matter of transport. I am informed that the Germans had twelve lines of rail feeding this front. The French met the rail shortage by motor transport, which, after the first few days, enabled them to fight with a relatively small handicap.

From personal observation during a single day, it seems impossible that the Germans will be able to secure any decided advantages here without losses which would be increasingly commensurate with their strategic gains. From the prisoners I was able to talk with I gathered that news of the Verdun failures is beginning to pervade along the German front, resulting in great depression in the German lines.

Before going to Verdun I spent two days in the Argonne district, visiting two separate corps, inspecting the first-line trenches and observation points. Accompanied by the general commanding I obtained the entire organization of one corps including the transport, commissariat, intelligence and all other departments, and I have never seen a more efficient organization, not excepting the Japanese army.

The morale of the French soldiers is perfectly extraordinary, and it is an inspiration to be with them.

## ANTI-BRYAN LANDSLIDE

Early Returns Indicate That His Ban Prohibition State Has Been Defeated.

OMAHA, NEB., April 18.—The early returns from the Nebraska primary, held to-day, indicated that William J. Bryan's entire prohibition state has been defeated, and if Mr. Bryan himself wins out for delegate-at-large to the national convention it will be by a close margin.

Henry Ford, of Detroit, is leading in the Republican presidential primaries, but is not expected to hold his lead. Charles E. Hughes is running especially strong, although his admirers are forced to write his name in on the ballots. Senator Cummins is leading Hughes, and the fight is between these two.

## PARLIAMENT NEARING CRISIS IN STRUGGLE

(Continued from First Page.)

hour" and there was no other way out of the existing maze of difficulties. In the gigantic struggle, he said, it was necessary to obtain every man possible.

Lord Milner said the government, in its obstinate resistance to the principle of equal service, was being driven from trench to trench, and it was perfectly evident the government would soon be compelled to abandon its last position.

The Marquis of Crewe, lord president of the Council, in behalf of the government, moved the adjournment of the house on the ground that the ministers were not in a position to make a statement. He emphasized the complexity of the problem which, he said, was recognized equally by the general staff and the army council and by the civilian members of the board.

The marquis was unable to say certainly that the members would be able to make a statement to-morrow, but he hoped they would. He added that they were obliged to consider the question from every possible angle.

## TWO HOUSES BURNED

Ancient Structures on East Broad Street Are Prey of Early Morning Blaze.

Fire of unknown origin early this morning practically destroyed two vacant houses on Broad Street, between Twentieth and Twenty-first Streets. The fire was burning briskly when members of the Fire Department reached the scene. Streams were thrown on the burning buildings quickly, and the flames soon were gotten under control. The loss is estimated at about \$4,000.

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## "The American Government" Book Coupon, April 19

50c Fifty cents and six dates from the Morning and Sunday editions will secure "The American Government," by Frederic J. Hunkin, when presented at The Times-Dispatch office.

"The American Government" contains 388 pages (size 8 1/2 x 12 inches), 20 full page illustrations, 30 chapters. It is bound in the red cloth—and is a dollar book.

If book is ordered by mail, send six coupons with 40 cents (the 10 cents extra is for postage) to The Times-Dispatch, Richmond, Virginia.

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## RUSSIANS TAKE TURKISH CITY OF TREBIZOND

(Continued from First Page.)

Erzerum. Grand Duke Nicholas is about to realize the triumph of his strategy by joining two great groups of his armies in a solid front from Erzerum to the sea. He will thus be enabled to present an unbroken line to the Turks in his sweep southward.

The fall of Trebizond costs the Turks their principal base in the coastal region. The importance of the town was due principally to its sea command of the main route of trade from Central Asia. For weeks it had been under intermittent bombardment by the Russian warships. Its fate was sealed when, on Friday, the Russians forced a passage of the Kara Dere River, twelve miles to the east, under fire of their naval guns.

## CROSSES MOUNTAIN BARRIER IN DEPTHS OF WINTER

The Kara Dere was the last natural obstacle to the army which has won some unprecedented difficulties of terrain in its advance. It had crossed the mountain barrier in the depths of winter, plowing through snow drifts fifteen feet deep in the passes, and fighting its way across crests which rose 8,000 feet above the sea.

Although it was realized that Trebizond could not hold out long after the Kara Dere had been forced, its fall soon caused great surprise even in circles closely connected with the military. The port had been transformed into a powerful fort by the Turks, and great numbers of men had been rushed there after the fall of Erzerum. It is believed that thousands of Turks have fallen prisoners, as their natural road of retreat was cut off by the Russian naval force.

Trebizond is a city of some 40,000 population. About one-third of these are Christians.

## HEAVY REINFORCEMENTS ARE RUSHED TO VERDUN

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.) LONDON, April 18.—Great German reinforcements are being rushed to Verdun, according to authoritative advice reaching here to-night. In order to fill the gaps in the army of the crown prince, the German general staff is draining the forces on the Russian and Macedonian fronts, these reports assert.

Heavy trains of veteran troops are said to be arriving in the rear of the Verdun armies. Swiss frontier dispatches estimate the re-inforcements at more than 100,000, in addition to the equal number which recently arrived at the front.

Unfavorable weather conditions have brought a stop to the latest offensive of the crown prince. Throughout the day, according to the midnight communication from Paris, the infantry remained inactive, while by dense fog and heavy rains the artillery was greatly hampered. Only intermittent bombardments are reported.

## REPORTS GIVE SOME IDEA OF MAGNITUDE OF DRIVE

Additional reports to-day give an idea of the magnitude of the German drive on the previous afternoon against the French positions east of the Meuse, stretching from the river to a point south of Doncourt.

While the French concede the loss of only a section of a first-line trench south of the Chaufour woods, the Germans assert that several important advances were made up the ridges of Steinbrunn, south of Haudremont farm, and the chain of hills northwest of Doncourt farm. More than 1,700 prisoners were taken, and the German main headquarters announces that the names of these men will be published in a special list, together with the names of 711 other French officers and 33,155 men captured previously in the Verdun engagements, because of attempts by the French to cast doubt on the Berlin communications.

Following their success east of the Meuse the Germans commenced a heavy bombardment on the opposite bank of the river against the French

defenses extending from Mort Homme to Cumieres. The descent of a blanket of fog put a temporary end to this bombardment.

## RETURN OF VON PAPPEN PAPERS IS DEMANDED

(Continued from First Page.)

Tair was understood to have been forwarded to-night to the Berlin Foreign Office.

## HAS NO INSTRUCTIONS TO RELEASE VON IGEL

NEW YORK, April 18.—United States District Attorney H. Snowden Marshall said to-day he had received no official instructions from Washington to release from custody Wolfe von Igel, secretary to Captain von Pappen, recalled military attaché of the German embassy, on the ground that he is a member of the staff of the German embassy, and therefore immune from arrest, by Federal agents on a warrant charging complicity in the alleged plot to blow up the Welland Canal.

Mr. Marshall, when informed of a Washington dispatch announcing that the State Department had requested Von Igel's release, made the following statement:

"I have received no request from Washington to set Von Igel at liberty. The reported action of the State Department comes as a distinct surprise, and I cannot, even if true, effect Von Igel's release to-night, as the courts have closed. He will not be released until I have received the necessary instructions from the Attorney-General."

Captain William B. Olfley, chief of the local division of the Department of Justice, whose agents took Von Igel into custody, said:

"The prisoner is not in my custody now, but in the hands of the courts, and if he is to be released there is nothing for me to do in the matter. The claim advanced by the German ambassador that Von Igel is a member of his staff, and therefore immune from arrest, is a surprise to me. I am certain that Von Igel's legal status had been decided in Washington some days before the arrest was made. Had there been any doubt as to Von Igel's immunity, I do not believe an indictment would have been returned against him."

## AGENTS COLLECTED VALUABLE PAPERS

Captain Olfley said that his agents collected valuable papers from Von Pappen's former office where Von Igel was arrested after a struggle, and said he would retain them unless ordered to restore them to the German ambassador.

Von Igel, with Von Pappen, Captain Taucher, American agent for the Krupp, and two others were indicted yesterday by a Federal grand jury, charged with conspiring to destroy the Welland Canal.

When arrested Von Igel claimed immunity, asserting that he was a member of Ambassador von Benckendorff's staff, and that the Federal agents had invaded German territory. He repeated this claim when taken before Federal Judge Howe, and demanded the return of official papers which he alleged had been removed from a safe by the Federal agents. At his request, Judge Howe postponed his arraignment until later in the day, when he could be represented by counsel.

Von Igel refrained from comment when arraigned. His counsel did not attempt to discuss the propriety of their client's arrest, but entered a plea for relatively small bail and the postponement of pleading for a week. The postponement was allowed, and Von Igel was released in \$20,000 bail.

## BREAK WITH GERMANY WOULD END MEXICAN CHASE

(Continued from First Page.)

troops would again cross the border. There was nothing to indicate that this plan had been discussed, however.

## SITUATION PERILOUS IF PARRAL LEAD IS FOLLOWED

It is known that army officials believe the situation of some of the detachments would be perilous if Carranza troops in other districts should

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follow the lead of those at Parral, who are reported to have fired on Major Tompkins's men.

A message to-day said that Americans from Parral reported that the citizens there were without arms. They also declared that the Herrera mentioned in unofficial reports as having led this Herrera, Carranza, commander, whose rumored disaffection to the Carranza cause caused much anxiety two weeks ago. That report proved to be unfounded.

Secretary Baker said after the Cabinet meeting that no additional troops had been ordered to the border, and that no such movement was contemplated at present. It was evident that the shifting of forces reported from San Antonio in accordance with General Huerta's last judgment as to the disposition of his men to prepare against any emergency.

## MORE TROOPS AT DISPOSAL OF GENERAL PERSHING

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., April 18.—General Pershing issued orders to-day that will place at the disposal of General Pershing 2,300 more troops.

It was learned to-night that there is reason to believe that more troops will be needed if the campaign to capture Villa is continued. The War Department, it was said, will have to authorize the sending of the few remaining troops in the United States into this department to fill vacant places made by troops ordered into Mexico.

General Pershing now has in his hands guard at Columbus 800 men, but the necessity of maintaining at least that number there is recognized. Staff officers here were convinced several days ago that unless Villa was taken before he got beyond Satevo the chances of getting him were remote. That point has been reached, and Villa remains at large or dead, and to the situation is added an undisputed hostility of various Carranza organizations that army men here declare makes doubly necessary the strengthening of General Pershing's force.

But even with more troops the pursuit of Villa will be a slow one. If his trail is extended south of the State of Chihuahua, in the opinion of army officers, they say that the trails beyond Satevo make increasingly difficult the operation of supply trucks. An advantage could be gained by the

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use of a shorter route either through Ojinaga or Fabens, but this plan, was reported from Washington, would be unacceptable, and the remainder plan, and what military men regard as the only logical one, the use of the railroad south from El Paso, appeared out of the question because of Carranza's refusal to permit it and reluctance of the administration to authorize its seizure.

Additional troops are being sent ready in Mexico along the line of communication as to strengthen the forces in the region south of Satevo. The forces of General Pershing have occupied points from where concentration can be made rapidly, and the general has established his field headquarters at Naniquipa, some distance north of Satevo.

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